CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication:	Fathergraham Chat Log
Other known title(s):	Not stated
OFLC ref:	1900456.000
Medium:	Text File
Publisher:	Not stated
Country of origin:	Not stated
Language:	English
Applicant:	The District Court at Dunedin
Classification:	Objectionable.
Descriptive note:	None
Display conditions:	None
Date of entry in Register:	07 October 2019
Date of direction to issue a label:	No direction to issue a label has been issued
Date of notice of decision:	No notice of decision has been issued

Summary of reasons for decision:

The text file is deemed objectionable because it promotes and supports the exploitation of children for sexual purposes under s3(2)(a) of the Films, Videos and Publications Classification Act 1993 (FVPC Act). The text file is a chat log that clearly discusses incest and the sexual abuse of children in explicit terms that are intended to be sexually arousing to those with an interest in young girls. It legitimises young girls as appropriate subjects for adult sexual arousal and desire. This classification interferes with the right to freedom of expression as provided by the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However the classification is consistent with Parliament's intention that publications falling under s3(2) of the FVPC Act are deemed objectionable. This is a reasonable limitation on the freedom of expression that reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to protect children from exploitation.